

Appl. No. 09/854,334
Amdt. Dated June 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2004

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1. These sheets, each including Fig. 1 and Fig. 2A, replace the original sheet including Fig. 1 and Fig. 2A. The new corrected drawings designate Fig. 1 as "Prior Art".

Attachment: Replacement Sheet Fig. 1 & Fig 2A
Annotated Sheet Fig. 1 & Fig. 2A

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action, dated December 15, 2004, Applicants thank the Examiner for accepting the IDS. Applicants have enclosed a copy of the Revocation of Power of Attorney and Appointment of New Power of Attorney which was previously filed with the Examiner.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the objection to the drawing. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have amended the drawings to specifically designate Figure 1 by the legend, "Prior Art". Additionally, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the objections to claims 2-10, 13-21, and 24-34. Applicants have amended the claims to correct grammatical errors and to overcome the formal antecedent-basis rejections.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the prior art rejections set forth by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicants submit that the references of record whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest Applicants' presently claimed invention.

Applicants have modified all the independent claims to specify that the 3-D EPG is generated using at least one of a plurality of objects which are stored at a user's location. This advantageously provides a system which allows a user to quickly and efficiently customize a guide's appearance using objects stored locally by the user's system. The present invention is far superior to the present systems which provide only one method of presenting program information such as an interactive user interface controlled by a provider.

Clanton, U.S. Patent No. 5,745,710, is directed to a specific graphical user interface that is used for displaying and selecting video programs such as video-on-demand programs

and interactive services. Col. 2, lines 43-46. Clanton discloses a 3-D movie studio back lot metaphor through which a user may navigate and select interactive services and programs. Col. 2, lines 64-67. More specifically, the movie studio back lot includes a variety of interactive spaces such as a poster wall displaying posters of currently available movies, an indoor sound stage, a film archive, critics' corner, etc. which may be selected by a user. Col. 8, lines 20-32. Additionally, various movie characters and animated objects may be found moving throughout the interface where some of these objects may represent advertisements. Col. 8, lines 32-36; Col. 12, lines 1-17. Clanton further discloses that the user may pan the movie studio back lot and interact with the spaces such as the poster wall. However, Clanton significantly does not teach about the ability to select at least one of a plurality of objects stored at a user's location to generate an interactive 3-D EPG. On the contrary, Clanton streams and provides digitized movies and other such programming which is requested by a user within the provided user interface, a studio back lot metaphor.

LaJoie, U.S. Patent No. 5,850,218, is directed to a comprehensive TV system which incorporates digital and analog programs and services, an advanced communications network, and a fully programmable set-top terminal capable of advanced TV and online services. Col. 2, lines 12-18. LaJoie discloses a system which can identify the source of a channel's service from a service table. Col. 16, lines 29-31. The source is determined from a parameter field within the service table, which contains information specific to the selected channel that is sent to the service when it is activated. Col. 16, lines 31-35. An interactive guide is also provided to allow a user to easily operate a set-top terminal and navigate through an abundance of programs and services. Col. 6, lines 14-18. Some services may include impulse pay-per-view, near-video-on-demand, video-on-demand. See generally Col.

7, lines 13-35. Additionally, messages between a provider and a user or between users may be sent using the system. Col. 8, lines 11-22. LaJoie does not disclose a system which allows for selection of at least one of a plurality of locally stored objects for displaying the 3-D EPG.

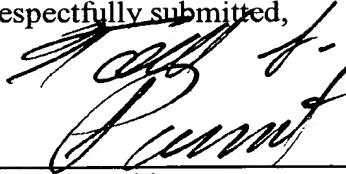
Finally, Kamen, U.S. Patent 6,421,067, is inapplicable, and Applicants herein request that this reference be withdrawn. As shown by the records of the USPTO, at the time the invention in this application was made, the subject matter and claimed invention in this application and in the '067 patent were entirely owned by the same entity, IsurfTV, and were subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, IsurfTV. (See Notices of Recordation Reel/Frame 011090/0636 and 011829/0561 attached as Exhibit A)

Nonetheless, Kamen is directed to an EPG which used pictograms with 3-D characteristics to display program information. See generally the Abstract. Kamen provides that a user can move the location of the objects displayed within this EPG. Col. 10, lines 54-56. More specifically, this is done by reconstructing the image of an object on a geometric surface located at a different distance from a plane to create visual impression of having the object move closer. Col. 10, lines 58-63. However, Kamen neither teaches the ability of user to select at least one of a plurality of locally stored objects to generate an interactive 3-D EPG nor the ability to receive localized content.

The references of record fail to teach or suggest these advances in the art. Applicants respectfully submits that all claims now stand in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail on June 15, 2005 in an envelope addressed to:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd L. Hunt", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants

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